



## INFORMATION SHEET

Age Group: **Children / Adolescents and Young Adults**

Sheet Title: **Motor Clumsiness (Summary)**

One of the first indications of motor clumsiness is that some children with AS learn to walk a few months later than one would expect. In early childhood there may be a limited ability with ball games, difficulty in learning to tie shoe-laces, and an odd gait when walking or running.

When the child attends school, the teacher may be concerned about their poor hand-writing and lack of aptitude in school sports.

In adolescence, a small minority develop facial tics, that is, involuntary spasm of muscles of the face, or rapid blinking and occasional grimaces.

All of these features indicate clumsiness and specific disturbances of movement.

Clumsiness is not unique to Asperger's Syndrome and occurs in association with a range of disorders of development. However, research shows that between 50% and 90% of children and adults with AS have problems with motor co-ordination.

Thus motor clumsiness is usually included in the diagnostic criteria for Asperger's Syndrome.